

Appl. No.: 10/771,805
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Off. Act. Dated: 11/29/2010

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended): A method of tracking and synchronizing content containing images across multiple devices, including a plurality of client devices and a server, comprising:

receiving new content for which no record exists, associated with a request submitted by a user;

reviewing said new content in response to the request and comparing image-content with existing content for which a record exists and which is a duplicate or related to said new content;

wherein said comparing includes image analysis between the new content and the existing content;

performing the request and creating a new content record corresponding to said new content;

automatically completing fields within said new content record based on information contained in the new content and said image analysis as well as information about the presence of duplicate or related content which is available on the multiple devices;

wherein new content without an existing record is compared with existing content having a corresponding record, and if the new content is at least similar to existing content, then the records from the existing content are utilized in completing the fields of the new content;

updating the records of duplicate or related content with information about the new content associated with said new content record to synchronize all the content records.

2. (previously presented): A method as recited in claim 1, further comprising:
receiving a copy, delete, or print request from a user corresponding to specific content within the existing content wherein duplicates of said specific content, or related to said specific content, are retained on a device across multiple devices configured for communicating with one another over a network;

reviewing a record associated with the specific content in response to the request and analyzing the associated record to determine what duplicate or related content is available across the multiple devices;

transmitting a confirmation for the request in response to detecting the presence of any duplicate or related content; and

performing the request in response to receiving the request and instructions from the user in responding to said confirmation.

3. (previously presented): A method as recited in claim 1, further comprising:
receiving a copy, delete, or print request from a user corresponding to said specific content within the existing content wherein duplicates of said specific content, or related to said specific content, are retained on a device across multiple devices configured for communicating with one another over a network;

reviewing a record associated with the specific content in response to the request and analyzing the associated record to determine what duplicate or related content is available across the multiple devices; and

determining utilization of any duplicate or related content based on a pre-established preference and the type of request which was received.

4. (previously presented): A method as recited in claim 1, further comprising:
transmitting a confirmation for the request in response to detecting the presence of any duplicate or related content; and

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wherein said confirmation presents the user with options as to which content to use, based on resolution of the content, for performing said request based on the presence of duplicate content.

5. (currently amended): A method as recited in claim 1, wherein image-content resolution is determined when comparing duplicate or related content ~~said new content includes one from the group of content items consisting of a photograph, music, a document, and a video.~~

6. (previously presented): A method as recited in claim 1, wherein each content record includes a field for indicating other content related to content associated with the content record.

7. (previously presented): A method as recited in claim 3, further comprising storing the pre-established preference in a storage device.

8. (previously presented): A method as recited in claim 1, further comprising storing the new content record in a storage device.

9. (previously presented): A method as recited in claim 2, wherein the confirmation is sought from the user for authorization for executing the request.

10. (currently amended): A system for tracking and synchronizing content containing images across multiple devices, including a plurality of client devices and a server, comprising:

means for receiving a request from a user to create a new content record for new content received from the user for which no record exists;

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means for reviewing specific content within the new content of said new record in response to the request and comparing image-content with duplicate or related content which is available across said multiple devices;

wherein said comparing includes image analysis between the new content and the existing content;

means for performing the request and creating a record corresponding to said new content;

means for automatically completing fields within said new content record in response to information contained in the specific new content and said image analysis as well as information about said duplicate or related content which is available across the multiple devices;

wherein new content without an existing record is compared with existing content having a corresponding record, and if the new content is at least similar to existing content, then the records from the existing content are utilized in completing the fields of the new content; and

means for updating the records of duplicate or related content with information about the specific content associated with said new content record to synchronize the content records.

Claims 11-16 (canceled).

17. (currently amended): A system for tracking and synchronizing content containing images across multiple devices, including a plurality of client devices and a server, comprising:

an interface module configured for receiving a request submitted by a user specifying new content submitted by the user for which no record exists;

said interface module is configured for communicating over a network between one or more client devices and a server device;

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wherein existing content, which is a duplicate and/or related, to said new content are retained across multiple devices configured for communicating over the network;

a review module configured for reviewing said new content and creating a new content record corresponding to said new content based on comparing the new content with existing content, and performing an image analysis;

wherein a content record is associated with existing content, with said content record having information fields for accessing the duplicate content and/or related content;

a storage module configured for storing a preference wherein the preference corresponds to types of request and includes at least one criteria for performing the request;

said review module configured for analyzing existing content and a corresponding content record associated with the request, to find duplicate or related content that is available across the system containing the multiple devices;

said review module automatically completing fields within said new content record based on information contained in existing content as well as information about the presence of duplicate or related content which is available across the multiple devices;

said review module also automatically updates content record fields associated with existing content in response to receipt of new content which is found to be a duplicate or related to the existing content based on said image analysis;

said review module configured for selectively transmitting a confirmation for the request based on the analysis and the presence of duplicate or related content and the preference for determining whether the request is performed; and

said review module executes the request based on receiving the request and instruction from the user in responding to said confirmation.

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18. (previously presented): A system as recited in claim 17, further comprising a capture module configured to identify content in response to comparing an image of the new content with images contained in the existing content.

19. (currently amended): A system as recited in claim 17, wherein image-content resolution is determined when comparing duplicate or related content ~~content includes one from the group of content items consisting of a photograph, music, a document, and a video.~~

20. (previously presented): A system as recited in claim 17, wherein the interface module is configured to provide a confirmation based on the criteria for performing the request as contained in said preference, said confirmation configured for confirming that the user desires to proceed with performing the request.

21. (previously presented): A system as recited in claim 17, wherein the storage module is configured to store the new content record.

22. (previously presented): A system as recited in claim 17, wherein the storage module is configured to store the new content.

23. (previously presented): A system as recited in claim 17, wherein the request includes one from the group of request types consisting of saving, deleting, modifying, and printing of content.

24. (currently amended): A computer-readable medium having computer executable instructions for performing ~~[[a]] tracking and synchronization~~ synchronizing content containing images ~~method~~ across multiple devices, including a plurality of client devices and a server, comprising:

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receiving a request from a user corresponding to new content submitted by the user for which no record exists across any of the multiple devices;

~~wherein existing content, which is a duplicate or related, to said new content, are retained across multiple devices configured for communicating with one another over a network;~~

creating a new content record for said new content submitted by the user for which no record exists;

wherein a content record is associated with existing content, with said content record having information fields for accessing the duplicate content and/or related content;

reviewing existing content records in response to the request and analyzing the associated record and comparing image content using image analysis to determine what duplicate or related content is available across the multiple devices;

automatically completing fields within said new content record based on information contained in the new content and said image analysis as well as information about the presence of duplicate or related content in existing content available across the multiple devices;

automatically updating content record fields associated with existing content in response to receipt of new content which is found to be a duplicate or related to the existing content;

selectively transmitting a confirmation for the request based on said reviewing and the presence of any duplicate or related content;

performing the request based on receiving the request and instruction from the user in responding to said confirmation.

25. (currently amended): A system for synchronizing and tracking content containing images across multiple devices, including a plurality of client devices and a server, comprising:

a server configured for communication over a network;

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a client device configured for communication over the network with said server;
an electronic processor in said client device, said server, or in both said client device and said server; and

programming executable on said electronic processor for,

receiving a request from a user with new content submitted by the user for which no record exists,

communicating over the network between said client device and said server device and at least one other client device connected to the network,

said new content along with existing duplicate content, and/or related content are retained across multiple client devices configured for communicating over the network,

creating a new content record for said new content submitted by the user, ~~wherein a content record is associated with existing content, with said content record having information fields for accessing duplicate content and/or related content,~~

analyzing the new content and comparing image content using image analysis to find duplicate or related content that is available on devices connected to the network,

automatically completing fields within said new content record based on information contained in the new content and said image analysis as well as information about the presence of duplicate or related content in existing content available across the multiple devices,

automatically updating content record fields associated with existing content in response to receipt of new content which is found to be a duplicate or related to the existing content,

transmitting a confirmation for the request when duplicate or related content is available,

receiving instruction from the user in responding to said confirmation, executing the request based on instruction.

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26. (currently amended): A system for synchronizing and tracking content containing images across multiple devices, including a plurality of client devices and a server, comprising:

- a server configured for communication over a network;
- a client device configured for communication over the network with said server;
- an electronic processor in said client device, said server, or in both said client device and said server; and
- programming executable on said electronic processor for,
 - storing a preference setting for one or more types of requests, said preference including at least one criteria for performing the request;
 - receiving a request from a user with new content submitted by the user for which no record exists,
 - communicating over the network between said client device and said server and at least one other client device connected to the network,
 - said new content along with existing duplicate content, and/or related content are retained across multiple client devices configured for communicating over the network,
 - creating a new content record for said new content submitted by the user, ~~wherein a content record is associated with existing content, with said content record having information fields for accessing duplicate content and/or related content,~~
 - analyzing the new content and comparing image content using image analysis to find duplicate or related content that is available on devices connected to the network,
 - automatically completing fields within said new content record based on information contained in the new content and said image analysis as well as information about the presence of duplicate or related content in existing content available across the multiple devices,

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automatically updating content record fields associated with existing content in response to receipt of new content which is found to be a duplicate or related to the existing content,

transmitting a confirmation for the request based on the preference setting when duplicate or related content is available,

receiving instruction from the preference setting, and/or from the user in responding to said confirmation, as to how to execute said request,

executing the request in response to said instruction.

27. (currently amended): An apparatus for synchronizing and tracking content containing images across multiple devices, including a plurality of client devices and a server, comprising:

a client device configured for communication over the network with a server and/or at least one other client device;

an electronic processor in said client device; and

programming executable on said electronic processor for,

receiving a request from a user with new content submitted by the user for which no record exists,

communicating over the network between said client device and a server and/or at least one other client device connected to the network,

said new content along with existing duplicate content, and/or related content are retained across the server and/or multiple client devices configured for communicating over the network,

creating a new content record for said new content submitted by the user,

~~wherein a content record is associated with existing content, with said content record having information fields for accessing duplicate content and/or related content,~~

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analyzing an image in the new content using image analysis to find images of duplicate or related content in the existing content that is available on servers and/or client devices connected to the network,

automatically updating content record fields associated with existing content in response to receipt of new content and said image analysis from which is found ~~to be a duplicate or related to the existing content~~,

transmitting a confirmation for the request when duplicate or related content is available,

receiving instruction from the user in responding to said confirmation, executing the request based on said instruction.

28. (currently amended): An apparatus for synchronizing and tracking content containing images across multiple devices, including a plurality of client devices and a server, comprising:

a server configured for communication over a network with client devices;
an electronic processor in said server; and
programming executable on said electronic processor for,

receiving a request from a user with new content submitted by the user for which no record exists,

communicating over the network between said server and at least one said client device connected to the network,

said new content along with existing duplicate content, and/or related content are retained across said server and at least one said client device configured for communicating over the network,

creating a new content record for said new content submitted by the user,

~~wherein a content record is associated with existing content, with said content record having information fields for accessing duplicate content and/or related content,~~

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analyzing the new content and comparing image content using image analysis to find duplicate or related content that is retained on client devices connected to the network,

automatically completing fields within said new content record based on information contained in the new content and said image analysis as well as information about the presence of duplicate or related content in existing content available across the multiple devices,

automatically updating content record fields associated with existing content in response to receipt of new content and said image analysis from which is found ~~to be a duplicate or related to the existing~~ content,

transmitting a confirmation for the request when duplicate or related content is available,

receiving instruction from the user in responding to said confirmation,
executing the request based on said instruction.